

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated November 19, 2004, claims 40-43 have been cancelled. Claims 31, 32, 34-39 and 44-47 remain in the application and have been allowed. The Examiner indicated in the Office Action that the application is in condition for allowance and prosecution of this application is closed, except for the presence of withdrawn claims 40-43. Accordingly, Applicants have cancelled the non-elected claims to place the application in condition for allowance. Entry of these amendments, and passing of the application to issuance, is requested.

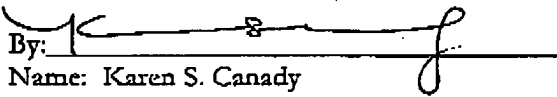
Should the Examiner believe minor matters still remain that can be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to call Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 12, 2004

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KSC/sjm